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Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1894

To the Chairman & Members of the Sealton Urban Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen

I have to report that during the year 1894 there were registered in your district 23 births – 11 boys & 12 girls. There were 16 deaths, equal to a death-rate of 12.3 per thousand of the resident population.

Of the 16 deaths two were under 1 year, one between 1 & 5 years, & seven over 65.

As to the cause of death: one was from drowning in attempting to land on an beach from a wreck, in a high surf. Two young infants died from inanition – one living only 5 minutes & the other 2 days. The child aged two years from the effects of dentition. Of the ~~seven~~ five deaths in middle life, one was from cancer, one after child-birth, two were sudden – one from apoplexy & one from heart disease, the other two were from various ordinary causes. The seven over 65 were chiefly from bronchitis & heart disease or rather the worn out heart of old age.

There were no deaths from phthisis & none from any of the zymotic diseases.

There was no epidemic prevalent during the year & I only received one notification under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889 – a case of erysipelas.

The death-rate of 12.3 is very satisfactory. Coupled with the extremely low mortality amongst infants & young children, & the absence of any death from either of the seven ordinary zymotics, it is sure evidence of the good sanitary condition of your district. Sealton was placed ~~fourth~~ second on the list of

South Devon districts in 1892 & fourth in 1893. This year, our death-rate being lower, we may hope to hold a still better position.

I must not conclude this Report without calling your attention to the visits of Dr Ruce, one of the Local Government Board's Inspectors, in May & August last. Dr Ruce inspected the slaughter-houses in the district & spoke very strongly of their being 1st very unfit, structurally, for their purpose & 2nd of their being kept in a very unsatisfactory condition. Dr Ruce also visited some of the sheds where dairy cows are kept, & insisted on the necessity of these being put into & maintained in better order. There is no doubt that this Authority will have to give special & prompt attention to these points.

I am Gentlemen
Your obedient servant
H A Pattinson
M O H

Sealed 1 7re 1895.

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Medical Officer of
Health for 1894

Leeds Urban Sanitary
Authority.